

**Burrillville**

**Recreation Commission**

**RE: Minutes, February 8, 2010**

**Present: Cheri Hall, Director Juliette Lopez-Recinos**

**Al Gerew, Acting Chair David Marcotte**

**Alice Lavigne, Secretary Kevin Mazzarella**

**Al Low Timothy Pratt**

**Absent: None**

**Excused: None**

**Guests: Wilfred Ducharme Jr. and James Richard representing Men's Softball**

**Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Al Gerew, Vice Chair at the Burrillville Parks and Recreation Offices, 92 North Main Street, Pascoag, R.I. Al Gerew welcomed new member Timothy Pratt to the commission.**

**Motion to accept minutes of January 11, 2010 regular meeting by Alice Lavigne. Seconded by Juliette Lopez-Recinos. Motion passed 6-0.**

**Correspondence:**

**The Director acknowledged receipt of the letter received from James Richard regarding Men's Softball.**

**Good & Welfare:**

**None**

**Dave Marcotte made a motion to move agenda item "Men's Softball" to be the first agenda item under Old Business. Seconded by Juliette Lopez-Recinos. Motion passed 6-0.**

**Old Business:**

**Men's Softball**

**James Richard thanked the commission for allowing Mr. Ducharme and himself to speak before the commission to address any issues regarding Men's Softball. Mr. Richard met with the Director earlier today to discuss past problem issues with Men's Softball. Mr. Richard explained that the Men's Softball Board of Directors is primarily new members with the exception of one member who most probably will be stepping down.**

**The issue regarding a Police Report filed in 2008 addressing drinking alcohol at Hauser field. Past President Mike Nault did advise the Men's Softball League members at the beginning of the last season to reiterate that there is no alcohol allowed. Mr. Richard stated he has**

never seen any alcohol at the field but was aware of a Division I team that did speak to a member of the Board to state they were drinking alcohol out of site and would clean up afterward. Mr. Richard stated this is not acceptable as far as he is concerned. Proposed new rules for Men's Softball prepared by Mr. Richard were distributed to the commission for review including "no alcohol allowed" and will be policing for this issue. He would like a response from the commission regarding the acceptability of the new rules.

Another issue is regarding the lights at Hauser field. Mr. Richard stated he spoke with Past President Mike Nault and it was stated no Men's Softball representative has keys to the lights at Hauser field. Mr. Richard stated the league is not in need of lights since they should not be practicing at the fields.

Mr. Richard stated Past President Mike Nault did have keys to the restroom building but when the restroom building was open for Men's Softball other people utilizing the field complex could have access also. Mr. Richard suggested only allowing use of the restroom building by the Men's League participants by getting a key from one representative who will have a key for access.

The Men's Softball Board members stated they will be in attendance to police the facility and verify everything is locked up when exiting. Mr. Richard stated as the new President, he will try to meet the commission's requests to allow for Burrillville Men's Softball to utilize

**the Hauser Field Complex.**

**Al Gerew stated a vote was taken at the last Recreation Commission meeting regarding Men's Softball usage of the Hauser Field Complex. The information supplied by Mr. Richard will be reviewed by the commission and reported back to him. Mr. Ducharme commented that he has watched and played softball at Hauser Field for many years growing up including now watching his daughter play and would like to allow future players to participate on Sundays in Men's Softball in Burrillville.**

**The Director stated two other mandatory items have not been received to date, league insurance documentation and the full set of rules. Dave Marcotte stated a list of the Men's Softball Board of Directors is also needed. Al Low confirmed with Mr. Richard that the league is part of the A.S.A. and requested league bylaws. The commission stated that budget information is not necessary since the town does not appropriate any funds to Men's Softball. Mr. Richard confirmed he is the new President and Mr. Ducharme confirmed he is the new Vice President of Burrillville Men's Softball. Mr. Richard and Mr. Ducharme left the meeting.**

**The commission introduced themselves to new commission member Timothy Pratt.**

**Al Gerew reviewed for the newer commission members the history of**

problems where the Men's Softball League does not want to conform to the rules and regulations set forth by the commission. Problems have included field usage, alcohol usage, disrespect of payments, refusal to acknowledge correspondence from the commission and the return of keys. The commission members agreed that the new members are trying to make an effort to conform to the rules and regulations but the commission will call for verification of all required changes.

The commission decided to not make a motion to reopen the agenda item to allow a 2010 Burrillville Men's Softball permit to utilize the Hauser Field Complex. A letter will be sent to the Burrillville Men's Softball League stating the commission supports its original position not to grant a permit and no motion to reverse that decision was made.

### **Skate Park & Other Playgrounds**

The Director reported meeting with Town Manager Mike Wood and Department of Public Work Superintendent Jeff McCormick regarding Freedom Park to review a partial design from New England Recreation Group for the rebuilding of the playground to a tot park. It was decided that the whirl would be removed and possibly moved to the Branch River Park playground located next to the middle school. The two spring toys will be reinstalled at Freedom Park. A new piece of playground equipment would be installed with a total cost of changes at approximately \$15,000. Department of Public Works

would be removing the whirl, removing the concrete slab, and the tot swing bay. Funding would come from the recreation capital account with monies accumulated from land development. Once the plan is finalized it will be brought before the Town Council for review. Dave Marcotte questioned why the funding for the playground equipment replacement wasn't included in the original request for bid proposals for the dam repairs. The Director stated an explanation might be that the State of Rhode Island was responsible for the bridge work but the Town of Burrillville was responsible for the removal of the trees abutting Freedom Park.

No decision regarding the reinstallation of the Skate Park has been made to date.

Discussion on the location of the park was held with recommendation by the commission to reinstall at the current location with the possibility of installing a chain link fence.

### **Spring Lake Beach**

Nothing new at this time.

### **Recreation Ordinance**

Nothing new at this time.

### **Bus Trip**

The Parks and Recreation Department fundraising bus trip to

**Foxwoods is scheduled for Saturday, March 20, 2010. An invite and flyers were shared with the commission.**

### **C.I.P. & Operating Budgets**

**Copies of this year's C.I.P. and Operating Budget requests were given to new member Timothy Pratt for review.**

### **League Joint Meeting**

**A joint meeting with the subsidized leagues will take place at the next recreation commission meeting scheduled for March 8, 2010 regarding funding and field usage.**

### **New Business:**

#### **Spring Programming**

**The Director reported the Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for March 27, 2010 at 11:30 a.m. at Branch River Park (rain/snow date April 3rd).**

**Meeting Adjourned: Motion made Al Lowe. Seconded by Dave Marcotte. Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m. Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Next Meeting: Monday, March 8, 2010 at 6:30 p.m., Burrillville Parks & Recreation Office, 92 North Main Street, Pascoag, RI 02859.**

**Recorded by**

**Carol L. Conway**

**Administrative Aide**

**Burrillville Parks & Recreation Department**

**RECCOM/Minutes020810.doc**